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WAR & PEACE

Germs, Germany plague U.S. as Korea War enters 3d year

TWO YEARS AGO, on June 25, 1950, the Korean War broke out. Two years later, on June 25, 1952, this was the cost to the United States alone:

• There have been 110,000 officially admitted U.S. casualties, "more than double the total number of casualties in all wars and military expeditions in American history with the exception of the Civil War and the two world wars" (N.Y. Times 6/22).

• The estimated cost of the war in money is $15 billion (U.S. News).

• The admitted cost to the average family: personal taxes up 25%; standard of living down 4%; cost of living up 13% (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

• It has been impossible to estimate the toll in human life and property damage for the Koreans, north and south. But these were the figures in general circulation last week: Dead and wounded through gunfire, bombings, jellied gasoline, starvation and exposure: 5,000,000; property damage: a nation with as many people as Spain laid waste.

THERE IS NO PEACE: One year ago, on June 23, 1951, Jacob Malik, chief U.S.S.R. delegate to the UN said:

> "The Soviet peoples believe that . . . discussions should be started between the belligerents for a cease-fire and an armistice."

Shortly thereafter truce negotiations were opened.

Last week there was still no peace. The negotiations were deadlocked over U.S. insistence on voluntary repatriation of prisoners of war. U.S. negotiators maintain that 100,000 of 170,000 Korean captives don't want to go home. The North Koreans and Chinese have ridiculed the figures, charged that forced screening of the prisoners has been a main cause of unrest and brutal retaliation in the prison camps, conceded that prisoners whose homes were in South Korea might remain.

In a "surprise" move last weekend at Panmunjom, chief U.S. negotiator Gen. W. K. Harrison declared that the Soviet Union during World War II had favored the voluntary-return principle. He cited two instances (Stalingrad and Hungary) when Soviet forces offered to surrounded Axis soldiers lenient terms of surrender including a chance to remain in a non-fascist country. Since no actual prisoners of war were involved, there seemed to be no relation to the existing situation in Korea—nor was there a reply to the undisputed Korean position that the U.S. stand violates the Geneva Protocol on exchange of prisoners.

HOW ABOUT IT? Restlessness among Washington's allies over the truce deadlock increased. In London **Reynolds News** (6/8) said:

> A close study of the record shows [that the North Koreans] have made concessions and . . . are also anxious to bring the talks to a successful conclusion.

Newsweek (6/23) reported:

> Some of the smaller countries are getting restless over the dragging out of the truce talks [and] several UN countries with forces in Korea, including France, have made exploratory moves toward withdrawing their troops [but] Washington is standing firm that the allies must stick together in Korea.

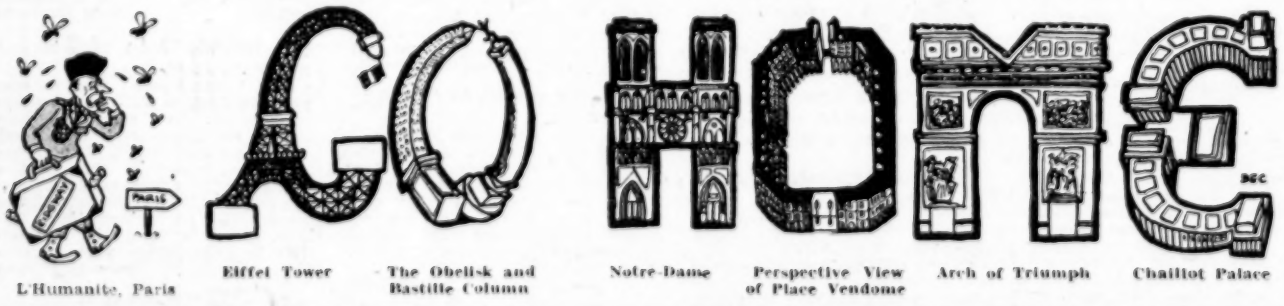
UN: GERM WAR: The Geneva Protocol of 1925 came in for discussion on another front. Last Wednesday at the UN Security Council Soviet delegate Malik (in the chair for June) introduced a resolution calling on all states to become parties to the Protocol, which outlaws germ warfare. Forty-one nations have ratified, including all the members of the Council except U.S. and Brazil.

In a 25-minute speech Malik confined himself to the Geneva convention, made no reference to the charges that the U.S. has been using germ warfare in Korea. Obviously expecting Malik to

(Continued on page 5)

THIS IS A DEMONSTRATION IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA
For a graphic description of what these people want, see photo, page 3

TOURIST GUIDE TO PARIS PREPARED FOR THE ARRIVAL OF GEN. RIDGWAY



L'Humanite, Paris — Eiffel Tower — The Obelisk and Bastille Column — Notre-Dame — Perspective View of Place Vendome — Arch of Triumph — Chaillot Palace

June 27, 1950 --- The man who stood alone on the floor of Congress

On June 27, 1950, President Truman ordered U.S. intervention in the fighting that began on the 38th Parallel two days before—and former New York Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP) raised a lone protesting voice in Congress.

Two years and 110,000 U.S. casualties later, virtually the whole nation agrees that the "police action" which has turned Korea into one vast desert and cemetery is the worst, most futile blunder in U.S. history.

On this tragic anniversary we reprint excerpts from the speech of the only people's representative in Washington who had the vision and courage to say then what most of the people understand now.

Marcantonio will be permanent chairman of the Progressive Party convention in Chicago July 4-6.

MR. Chairman, we have heard words read here by our distinguished majority leader which I think will mark a disastrous course, and the words I am using do not adequately describe the disastrous consequences this course will have on the people of the U.S. unless checked by the people themselves.

I would be remiss to the things in which I believe if I did not stand up here and state my opinion on this matter. After all, Mr. Chairman, you live only once, and it is best to live one's life with one's conscience than to temporize or accept with silence those things which one believes to be against the interests of one's people and one's nation.

The power to declare and make war is vested in the representatives of the people, in the Congress of the United States. That power has today been usurped from us with the reading of this short statement by the President. We here in Congress are asked to supinely accept this usurpation of our right as representatives of the American people. We have abdicated it, for I have heard no protest, I have heard not a single word against it. I have no other recourse but to stand up and point out exactly what this action is, how it violates our democratic traditions, and how it deprives the American people of the right to express themselves on the vital question of war and peace—a power and a right vested in the representatives of the people by those who wisely wrote our Constitution.

WE have been warned time and time again, and all signs in Asia have been pointing to what? That aspiration for national liberation has been and is supreme in the very existence of the people of Asia. In China we spent $3 billions on Chiang Kai-shek. He controlled the mainland, he controlled the government, he controlled the army, he controlled everything. Our $3 billions did not save him, because I tell you neither $3 billions nor any amount of billions would ever defeat the desire of 400 million Chinese to establish for themselves their own form of government—no more than billions of dollars could have stopped us to establish for ourselves our own form of government in 1776.

On Feb. 7 I stated in this House that the defense of tyranny was never in the best interests of the people of the United States. I pointed out the similarity between the rottenness that existed in the Chiang Kai-shek government and that existing in the South Korean government. It was a government imposed on the people of Korea by force of arms, a police state; and I stated at that time that that government could not long endure, that it would be wiped out by the will of the people of Korea.

HERE now we are sending American aviators to lay down their lives, sending American sailors to lay down their lives—and who knows how soon it will be before our infantry will be sent to lay down their lives to defend, aid and abet tyranny and perpetuate aggression against the Korean people who strive for a united and independent nation?

I know that the American people will not want this action when they think it over, and I know that they will thrust through this terrible dark cloud of war that has been descending on them. You can keep on making impassioned pleas for the destruction of communism, but I tell you that the issue in China, in Asia, in Korea and in Viet Nam is the right of these peoples to self-determination, to a government of their own, to independence and national unity. These people despite the terror of the atom bomb have refused to abandon their efforts for national liberation.

I SHALL do all that I can—alone perhaps, but living with my conscience—to oppose this course which is not in the defense of the best interests of the American people.

War is not inevitable; there are alternatives, but this declaration on the part of President Truman is an acceptance of the doctrine of the inevitability of war. I stand here and challenge the doctrine. I say that the ingenuity of Americans and people all over the world challenge this doctrine.

Let's call the roll!

A million progressive voters need the GUARDIAN to keep up with the fight. You can help them.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN 17 Murray Street, New York 7, N. Y.

$..... enclosed for the following subs at $2 a year, $1 for 30 weeks (indicate by name). ☐ $2 enclosed to renew my own sub.

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Vol. 4, No. 36 — 178 — JUNE 26, 1952

Arkansas—by choice

IMBODEN, ARK.

I can understand Mr. Tucker's problem very well. The South does not have a monopoly on prejudice and ignorance. I believe that Arkansas is smeared and burlesqued more than any other state and, yet, I'm a citizen by choice and not by accident of birth. I suggest to Mr. Tucker that he get in touch with some of the co-operatives in Arkansas and Missouri and ship his oranges by truck. We have truckers here who haul to and from Florida.

I have been getting the GUARDIAN for nearly a year, and it fills a void that hasn't been filled since the demise some years ago of The American Guardian of Oklahoma City. W. A. Greene

Lancaster in Daily Express, London

"That's what I like about the Americans — never afraid of giving youth a chance!"

THE MAIL BAG

Facts against sewers

POSTORIA, O.

This perennial Russian "whipping boy" tripe, by our traitors and warmongers, is merely a repetition of lying latrine dope created in complete fraud during the 1890's. Strange that the common slave continues to give this so-oft-repeated sewer bilge any consideration. I trust that with your factual information he will awaken.

We certainly need, not only the success of the Progressive Party, but owing to the size of the U. S. A., other like American-type parties, to have a proper balance. I claim that we have had only one party since 1870, because of the acts of both the Republican and Democratic parties. The voting record of each is the sole method of proof.

E. W. Emerson

All over Frazee

FRAZEE, MINN.

We sure will try to give the peace candidates as many votes as possible. For the people are on the crossroad. They don't know who to vote for. But when I told many of them that we got a peace candidate running for President they didn't know anything about it. So they want to know his name, and I told them. Boy, it wasn't long before it was all over Frazee, and the die-hard Republicans were angry. They wanted to chase me out of town because I read the GUARDIAN and showed the pictures of Charlotta Bass and Vincent Hallinan. I didn't worry, I get a kick out of it. We have no labor unions here, they are all mostly little farmers who have always been Republicans or Dixiecrat Democrats. Wm. P. Smith

Eisenhoover & the Faro Deal

OLD MATCHLOCK, CONN.

Justice Douglas is off on the wrong foot when he starts a speech before the New School: "America today faces a distraught and troubled world." America faces its own image in the world mess it has purposefully created; that is what to begin with.

From the kickoff at Fulton, Mo., the bipartisan atomic bums have spared neither tax money nor truth nor decency nor the Constitution to establish an untenable situation and intensify its untenability to the explosion point. Douglas reminds me of the gent Artemus Ward met at Richmond after Appomatox. "Why," says this gent, "we've been a-fightin' agin' the Old Flag!" And Ward continues: "He then borried five dollars off'n me an' bust into a flood of tears."

Douglas can keep broadcasting noble sentiments—and a good deal of sense in them, too—from under that sable tent that fits so snug around his neck—in his off hours, and draw his official salary and look forward to a pension. But wait a minute: if either Taft, the triumphant egghead, or Reichsmarschall Eisenhauer gets in, what assurance has he that he will not be impeached and tossed into the ring as a sacrifice to the hyenas who pant in their wake? None.

Satevepost devotes a page to "what Eisenhower thinks." It is an instance of trying to solve a problem when no problem exists to solve. There is extant no evidence whatever that Eisenhower thinks. My answer would not be a solution but simply a clarification: Just write the name Eisenhoover.

And with respect to the prize invention of the Homunculus from Mo.: Just write it the Faro deal. Saves a lot of ink, and will be understood without trouble at least in the West. M. Godwin

How crazy can you get dept.

WITH THE 7TH DIVN, IN KOREA, June 6 (AP)—When the 32d Infantry Regt. adopted the skull and crossbones as its emblem, its chaplain, Major Merrill Davis of Tacoma, Wash., was in a quandary. He didn't think the insignia seemed appropriate for a chaplain.

His jeep now carries the emblem, with one variation. A halo is over the skull.

—San Francisco Chronicle.

One-year free sub to sender of each item published under this heading. Winner: L. H. Horr, Brisbane, Calif.

Cheers for Mrs. Bass

COLTON, CALIF.

I am 83, and can read only a little of the GUARDIAN. But even at that, if I was able I would send you $25. But the only resources I have at all is a very measly pension. All other prices have sky-rocketed but that pension stays exactly the same, so I am sending $1 and maybe I can save out of that old pension enough to later send more. Hoorah! for our Progressive ticket, especially Charlotta Bass. She'll be the biggest one on the ticket. I am so glad my father turned loose 100 slaves just a little while before I was born. S. E. Waskom

Let's all stay IN

BRONX, N. Y.

Am sending $5. We must keep the GUARDIAN in business or else we all go out of business.

Leah Shain

Boobus capitoliensis

BELLE GLADE, FLA.

What's this" you're holding out on us? On p. 1, June 5 issue, you mention that Rep. Velde "recently blasted the GUARDIAN in Congress with a cannonade of inaccuracies." We read every word of our GUARDIAN but don't remember seeing the story. Naturally we are interested in hearing of any actions taken against our paper.

France Lyngholm

GUARDIAN space seemed too precious to report Hon. Velde. Among other things he said Ye Ed once worked for the British Manchester Guardian, "another left-wing organ." Needless to say, Ye Ed never did, and it isn't. Ed.

That's good

CHICAGO, ILL.

Whenever workers go out on strike the government thinks it's all right for them to take over factories, etc., because strikers interfere with the war effort and also deprive big business of profit. They criticize Russia for taking over factories, farms, etc., for the benefit of all the people, and not a small, greedy, powerful group of parasites. It's also all right for big business to be organized to protect their interests. But when an ordinary worker wants to organize to protect his job, that's bad. Bad for whom?

Mrs. I. R. Neimark

Lettuce eat

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Reader Hanford's diet, or the Rockefeller Foundation diet, or any old rule-of-thumb diet, for that matter, probably has science on its side, but wouldn't go over in a very big way in certain lines of work, for example the building trades.

I can just see myself. It is noon. I put down the 100 lb. bag of plaster I've been carting around all morning and open my lunch pail. To my delight I find a few crisp leaves of lettuce and an average-size tomato. I eat happily for three minutes. During the remaining 27 minutes I do not feel bloated, sluggish or irritable. Then at 12:30 the boss catches my eye and I have a go at mixing mortar with a big hoe. I do this for the rest of the day.

At supper I choose two ripe tomatoes, slice off half a head of lettuce and eat for five minutes. My wife, who also works, but does not follow my diet, helps me stand up and supports me until I reach the bed. I fall asleep at 6:30 without heartburn or upset stomach and slumber deeply until breakfast time.

After a cup of tea without sugar and a cigarette I am ready for another buoyant day. In a week's time I am able to trim down to the real me. A little while more and —who knows? Yes, the trouble with reader Hanford's "little man" in the U. S. A. is that, and I speak only for me and my acquaintances in the construction line, he likes to eat too much. Francis X. Crowley

Worry about our own

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

The N. Y. Post says Truman is worried about the red POW's. I am writing to him to say why not think of our own boys who are paying the penalty for the continued truce talks. Why not ask people to write and ask Truman to consider our boys and stop worrying about the red POW's.

E. Holston

Let's not be rash

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Upon reading this week's Report to Readers—I remember throwing in the fire an unopened communication that I thought was from LIFE. I have not received the note you speak of. Could I have been so rash as to burn yours unread? Please send me one in case this is a fact. Lenore P. Jof

All other fire-feeders may apply. Ed.

Whiffy morality

MIAMI BEACH, FLA.

Hearst's American Weekly (June 8) gives another boost to Moral Re-Armament under the title "Preview of a New World." The actual story of MRA is, of course, a "History of Monopoly-Capitalist Decay."

NO CUPS . . .

The genuinely progressive GUARDIAN could give the public the facts if only it had the circulation of such ad-enriched weeklies; but sometimes nature itself seems to react against the reactionaries posing as progressives. The MRA piece is trimmed with money-gifts in the form of ads for "My false teeth stay tight," "Prevent tooth decay" by some ammonia method, "O-O-O-O MY FEET! They are killing me," a Nagging Backache cure, something to take the stink out of toilets (why have them stink so much to begin with?), a corn sticker, and "super-effective VETO" to stop stink under the arms.

That's all on the end of the MRA article, except for a publisher's boost that the weekly is read by people in over 9,500,000 families —which form of mathematics stinks to heaven for being as misleading as MRA. Albert Muldavin

Double dose of lies

WORTHINGTON, O.

May I compliment you on your very excellent paper? The coverage is amazing. You seem to gather into a few pages news from every corner of the world. The people need you, especially this election year when lying propaganda on local affairs is added to the usual lying propaganda on international affairs. Your articles on the terrible Rosenberg case were wonderful. Anna H. Morgan

Where peace is

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Peace is where the people are:
It waits in the bright clear sun
For us to take the seed of tomorrow
And plant it with our bold sure hands
In the rich black soil of history,
In the golden fields of time.

War is where the profits are,
Clutched close by the greed-sick few,
Deep in their fur-lined caves they hide
Shrink, fearful, from truth's sharp light.
Buying up betrayal and treason
And the brute blindness of fascist hate.

Peace is where the people are,
Strong, of unlimited might
That needs only to be known
To be clenched into one mighty fist
That can smash these warlords of conquest;
That can flatten their stockpiles of bombs.

Join, friends, in the legions of peace,
Join the millions arising to fight,
Knowing the sun shines tomorrow
On the yellow, the black, and the white
Sitting at the table of plenty
Free, equal and happy at last.

Herb Porter

We're saying "Hello"

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Sorry I can't send you more. I'm one of the strugglers on very little at 64. Lots could be said but money talks and all it says to me is "Hello and Goodbye." Hope you make it. Sadie Dobisch

REPORT TO READERS

Guardian editors head West

FOR A FORTNIGHT following the Progressive Party Convention July 4-5-6, two of the GUARDIAN's editors will be visiting in the Los Angeles area. They most certainly want to get together with you if they are anywhere within hailing distance.

Tabitha Petran, our world affairs editor, will arrive during the holiday weekend following a vacation in New Mexico (her first in four years). Cedric Belfrage, GUARDIAN's editor, will fly in directly from covering the Convention.

A SCHEDULE OF GATHERINGS is being arranged in conjunction with the Independent Progressive Party of California covering as many communities as possible during their brief stay.

For dates and places, telephone Marjorie Bein at Hillside 7653 or to the IPP office in Los Angeles, REpublic 2-8152.

Later in July they will spend a short time in San Francisco and then head home via different routes, intending to stop over as often as possible to meet with GUARDIAN readers coast-to-coast.

We hope you'll find the time to exchange greetings with one or both of our visiting firemen if their itineraries bring them near your neck of the woods. We'll try to keep you posted on their schedules. —THE GUARDIAN

HAVE YOU RETURNED THAT YELLOW ENVELOPE TO US?

U.S. SPY SCARE MARATHON REACHES FOR THE MOON

'Space Platforms' and the Rosenbergs

By William A. Reuben

WITH Washington's foreign and domestic policies facing a new crisis as "free world" allies and its own citizens balked in all directions, "spy sensations" were laid on double-thick in June in what looked like a planned effort to scare the balkers back in line.

The season was ushered in at a communion breakfast in New York when U.S. Atty. Myles Lane unveiled a startling new charge against Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, "atom spies" under

MYLES T. LANE
The 21st century mind

death sentence in Sing Sing. "These spies," he said, (N.Y. **Times**, 6/2)

> ". . . had given Soviet Russia some of our top secrets, including a project for a platform 3,000 miles in space. . . . [Because of the Rosenbergs, the Russians found out about this in 1944-5], before some of our own top people knew about the project."

50 YEARS OLD: The "revelation" came a few days before the Rosenbergs' petition for a Supreme Court hearing was filed, as public opinion measurably mounted against the conviction and sentence. The press played up the U.S. Atty.'s new charge widely; these facts were unmentioned:

- The Russian Science Survey published in 1903 K. Ziolovsky's findings on "The Rocket in Cosmic Space," sketching the possibilities of space travel. Since the many "space station" theories subsequently advanced all hinge on observations, speculations and experiments concerning rockets, Russian scientists can properly take credit for being the pioneers in this field.
- Between 1926 and 1929 two societies were set up in the U.S.S.R. to promote study of space travel, solve its problems.
- In 1923 the first theory of a space station was developed by Germany's Herman Oberth, rocket expert and astronautical theorist, in his book The Rocket Into Interplanetary Space.
- Since 1922 information about space stations has been public property expounded and discussed in countless books and journals all over the world.
- In 1948 Defense Secy. Forrestal, who was locked up a month later after running down the street in his nightshirt crying "The Reds are coming!" and subsequently succeeded in his fourth suicide attempt, referred in his annual report to a secret "earth satellite vehicle program" that the U.S. Army was engaged in. Scoffing at the "secret" report, the N.Y. Times' science editor Kaempffert pointed out (1/2/49) that the space-station "notion has engaged the astronauts for many years" and Forrestal's "earth satellite vehicle" could be traced directly to the work of Oberth.

EAST WITH WHITTAKER: The facts, if anyone cared to consider them rather than the oracular utterances of Bentley, Budenz, Chambers & Co., showed that claims about space-station "secrets" are as nonsensical in 1952 as when offered by the paranoidal Forrestal in 1948.

But this was only one of the new "spy sensations" brought almost daily by newspapers, books, magazines, radio, TV and movies, with fiction and "fact" so scrambled as to leave the citizen dizzy. At the movies, the citizen could with the FBI **Walk East on Beacon** to trap a Red spy ring operating out of Boston; or in **High Treason*** see how it worked in Britain; or in **Red Planet Mars** hear a "U.S. Defense Secy." say:

> "I don't want war, but Moscow, Leningrad — every nerve center in the Soviet Union — must be wiped out."

Between hard covers there were the "revelations" of Budenz, of Chambers, of Oliver Pilat (**The Atom Spies**), of Ralph de Toledano (**Spies, Dupes and Diplomats**). The **Satevepost** concluded a four-part series by Alan Moorehead, **New Yorker** specialist, in the quaint charms of starving Italy, on Klaus Fuchs ("He Gave the A-Bomb to Stalin"). On TV there was Whittaker Chambers in person, whom leading U.S. psychiatrists have called a "psychopathic personality," curdling the spines of the "Youth Wants to Know" audience. (Meanwhile radio station WJZ was forced to abandon a four-person forum planned on Chambers' book because no one except this reporter could be found to speak publicly against it; the American Legion had announced that anyone criticizing it should be turned in to the FBI.)

Newspapers reported the arrest of "Scientist X" and firings of UN employes "suspected of Communist leanings" as a House committee voted the death penalty for peace-time espionage. "Spy plots" were reported from France, Britain, Italy, Korea, Germany and Lapland, and a story of Klaus Fuchs smuggling from his jail cell "secrets" which he hid in a hollow leg of his bed was banner-headlined. (The British Home Office's statement that it was "completely untrue" was quietly buried.)

Fred Wright (reprinted by request)
"Get me the Secretary of Defense in Washington . . . and hurry."

WANTS TO BE TRIED: Clearest proof of any actual conspiracy came in an action brought in a N.Y. federal court by aerodynamics specialist and former Columbia U. physics teacher William Perl. Perl was one of the 118 witnesses the U.S. announced it would call in the Rosenberg case. Like such experts as Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, Dr. Harold Urey and Maj. Gen. Leslie Groves who were each "expected to corroborate the government's case" (prosecutor Saypol on Perl), Perl's relationship to the case was confined to headlines; but his indictment when the government rested its case, for alleged perjury five months earlier, caused a new press sensation conveniently submerging the case for the defense.

Perl brought action this month to make the government bring him to trial; he said he never had any feelings "remotely disloyal" to the U.S., but had been unable to find employment in the 15 months since he was indicted. He insisted on a chance to answer in court the "innuendoes unjustly raised to cast doubts on my loyalty." Answering for the government, one of Myles Lane's assis ants told the court (N.Y. **Times**, 6/10):

> The government felt that it was inappropriate to go to trial now, in the interests of security and justice. . . .

To Perl's demand that the government furnish a bill of particulars explaining what "crime" he is charged with, he got this answer (N.Y. **Times**):

> To grant this would in effect be giving the defense the government's evidence.

FACTS vs. NIGHTMARES: As it became clear that everything connected with "spy plots" is "secret," including evidence against the accused, the embattled Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case continued to deal in facts and labor to bring them in the open. It held three end-of-June meetings in greater New York, received 10,000 signatures to its Supreme Court amicus petition in a week.

Washington, feeding the "best-informed people in the world" with a new stock of nightmares and Munchausen tales through its big-business-controlled press, had the loyal support of "liberals" in keeping any facts from emerging. Attending a Rosenberg mass-rally in Brooklyn at which $3,500 was collected and two rabbis (Cronbach of Cincinnati, Sharff of Williamsburg, N.Y.) were chief speakers, N.Y. **Post** columnist Max Lerner wrote:

> My anger was at the cynicism with which they [the Communists] exploited the emotions of good people for an evil cause. . . . During the whole meeting one listened in vain for a single hard fact that would cast a serious doubt on their guilt.

In the Sing Sing death house Ethel and Julius Rosenberg waited, confident that sanity would dawn again.

* Albert Kahn, author of the book **High Treason**, well-known to GUARDIAN readers, last week filed suit against the producers of this war-inciting film, claiming $500,000 for the damage done, by appropriating his title, to his reputation as an anti-war author.

A matter of education

At the 34th annual meeting of the American Assn. of Advertising Agencies much attention was paid to the problem of increasing prosperity in the country after defense production is cut back. One ad executive said the outlook is not half bad; that we have the tools and machines and the productive ability—and enough purchasing power left over after taxes. But, he said, 160 million Americans must be educated to live one-third better.

—Trends,
Chemical Bank & Trust Co. newsletter

FARM

Politicos turn charm on groggy farmers

THE POLITICAL scramble for the potent U.S. farm vote—in 1948 it swept Harry Truman into office—was well under way last week, but the farmers themselves were still taking a beating. Farmers represent a little more than 15% of the population, but in 1951 they got 9.5% of the national income.

The squeeze between farm income and the cost of farm production was getting tighter; the Agriculture Dept. predicts that production costs, already at an all-time high, will increase another 6% this year. Farm debts are growing; for the U.S. as a whole, farm mortgages rose by 5% in 1951, short term debts went up 18%. Farm mortgages in Iowa alone, one of the richest farm states, rose $30,000,000 last year.

12 EGGS, 8 POUNDS OF FEED: Poultry farmers were among the hardest hit. Under an equitable ratio of prices to costs, one dozen eggs should buy 12½ pounds of feed; in March of this year one dozen eggs bought only eight pounds of feed. Egg prices were at 77% of parity; wheat and corn, together accounting for 65% of the cost of egg production, were at 89% and 93% of parity respectively. Chicken growers in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia last month were losing an average of 6c a pound on every fowl they sold. One expert reported:

> "Feed costs alone amount to almost as much as the recent selling price."

In Texas and Arkansas the losses on broilers were even greater.

PLEASE, I DON'T KNOW: Republican Presidential aspirant Taft presistently was keeping to his party's line that farm programs "must not involve any question of subsidy." Gen. Eisenhower was pleading ignorance of farm problems (in Denver he asked a group of farm magazine editors to help him frame a farm program), but he did have a ten-point plan which, among other things, would end price controls.

GEN. EISENHOWER
A plow? What's that?

But in Congress Republicans were vying with Democrats in promising most to farmers. On May 1 the House passed an Agriculture Dept. appropriations bill for $724,003,669, beat down all efforts to trim it. On June 6 the Senate boosted the figure to $1,300,000,000. The bill now goes to a joint conference to adjust the differences.

On May 30 a Senate Agricultural subcommittee approved a bill introduced by Milton R. Young (R-N.D.) and Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) to extend for two years a dual method of calculating parity prices, guaranteeing farmers the higher of the two. On June 17 the House Agriculture Committee approved not only the two-year extension but also a provision for 90% of parity for the six so-called basic crops (wheat, corn, rice, cotton, peanuts, tobacco) through 1955.

SLIDING SCALE: Another bill introduced in the Senate by Robert S. Kerr (D-Okla.) would abolish the "sliding scale" price support provisions in present law, would establish price supports at standard 100% parity (including many perishables not now supported). Another Young bill would provide 90% parity supports for non-basic crops for which the Agriculture Dept. asks increased production. Agriculture Secy. Brannan himself has asked for repeal of the sliding scale and a flat 90% parity support for storable crops.

Republicans are still smarting from their 1948 upset in the farm country where they thought they were unbeatable; the fight for the farm vote will be one of the hottest in this campaign. The GOP will press two main issues:

- The grain shortage scandal in which some 131 private warehousemen are charged with converting to their own use nearly $8,000,000 of government-stored grain; criminal prosecution has been recommended in only 68 cases.
- The charge that by manipulation on the eve of the 1948 elections the Truman Administration deliberately depressed farm prices and turned the tide in the farm vote by blaming the billion-dollar loss of income on the Republicans; a new charge has already been made that a similar trick is being planned for this year.

FORGOTTEN PLAN: Neither side is even mentioning the Brannan Plan, the promise of which was such a potent vote-getter four years ago. Brannan himself seems not to be bitter that Harry Truman abandoned that promise without a fight. At a recent Senate committee hearing Brannan was asked if he had been consulted in advance about a recent Truman farm speech. He replied No, and was asked if he agreed with the things Truman said; he answered:

> "I do. I don't remember all of them but I agree."

Even to Sen. Allen J. Ellender (D-La.), the committee chairman, that represented "loyalty to a superlative degree."

PROGRESSIVE PARTY

They're coming to Chicago from all the 48 states

ONE week before convention time in Chicago the PP was assured of representation there from every state in the union. The one-for-ten plan, whereby any ten people can nominate a delegate, makes possible delegations from places that would otherwise go unrepresented.

The plan was most effective in the South where PP organization is toughest. Already registered as delegates under the ten-for-one rule were three from North Carolina, two from Oklahoma; Florida, Georgia, Louisiana were picking delegates on the community level under the plan.

The ten-for-one plan seemed to have assured not only wider geographic rep-

resentation, but a broader economic distribution, with a greater percentage of factory and farm people than came to Philadelphia in 1948. (The full picture will not be in until the count is made at Chicago.) From California 150 delegates had already registered, from New York over 300, from Illinois over 500; from states where there is little or no PP organization, registrations were already four from Texas, five from Kentucky, and delegations from Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, New Mexico and Nebraska were reported certain. The Virginians have chartered a bus to carry 25-30 delegates; Pennsylvania will send 100-200, including many steel strikers.

MANY NEGROES COMING: Many Southern delegates will be Negroes. Henry Moss, PP Southern organizer, found "more warmth, spirit and enthusiasm by far today" than in the party's 1948 campaign. He said last week:

> "Having a white Presidential nominee and a Negro woman Vice-Presidential candidate has convinced large sections of the Southern working class and middle class that the Progressive Party means what it says when it talks of Negro rights, that it is sincere in its program for Negro and white unity."

The Negro's fight for suffrage, the registration in unprecedented numbers of Negro voters despite terror, has been a key PP campaign in the south; Negro representation on all party tickets is a key issue in the north and west.

PP campaign director Morton Bloom, back from a swing around the Northwest, reported party lines far more fluid there than in the East, with coalitions possible behind some candidates on the Democratic or Republican tickets. Grass-roots election of convention delegates is possible there even in the old parties. In Washington State, for example, where party machinery is less like a steamroller, the Democratic State Convention recently passed resolutions against the Smith and McCarran Acts.

Ticket likely to be on 35 state ballots

IN 1947 the N. Y. **Herald Tribune** said it would be a miracle if a third party got on the ballot in 36 states. In 1948 the new Progressive Party's national ticket was on the ballot in 45. **U. S. News** predicted that year:

> . . . . [the] third party will disappear after election, probably never to be heard of again.

Many state legislatures did their best to validate that prediction. Electoral hurdles for new parties, tough enough before, were heightened. Press blackout and witch-hunt hysteria made canvassing more difficult.

Yet last week, on the eve of the PP's national convention, 4 years after its "burial," a survey indicated the ticket will be on the ballot in 35-40 states.

In most states petition campaigns are still under way, with deadlines throughout the summer. The PP is already certified in eight states: New York, California, Montana, Connecticut, Missouri, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Michigan and certification is awaited in Texas.

Almost certain of certification are: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Virginia.

Some states make certification almost impossible; in Louisiana, for example, all signers must be either new voters or registered non-partisans who have not voted in primaries of other parties. Biggest petition battles are in Illinois (not on the ballot in '48), Ohio and Massachusetts.

The recent ruling of the Illinois State Supreme Court, lifting the ban against canvassers working outside their own counties, sent teams to all parts of the state to gather the required 25,000—at least 200 from each county. But the court ruling eliminated only one of many obstacles Illinois legislators had erected. James H. Wishart, PP state director, reported:

> The conspiracy [to keep the PP off the ballot] is beginning to crumble around the edges. Its overturn depends on progressives in Illinois and elsewhere.

The Ohio requirement of 500,000 signatures, distributed statewide, seems a tougher hurdle; a legal fight is under way to change the law.

In Massachusetts 350 canvassers have already gathered 35,000 signatures (the requirement is 58,000 by July 22.) The State Committee set a goal of 60,000 by July 4 convention time.

KATHARINE VAN ORDEN
The anvil was sounding

What's going on about the platform

THE PP platform was being hammered out in state public hearings throughout the country. California was to hold its hearings this week; New York's American Labor Party scheduled its platform discussion for June 25 (Teachers Union Center Auditorium, 206 W. 15 St.) Many states had already met in convention and drafted platforms.

Montana's PP was typical in the searching, specific, regional planks it offered. The convention there, already on record for the party's broad program of peace, civil rights, a peace-time economy and equality for the Negro people, also included planks calling for:

- Seating of China in UN;
- Outlawing mass-destruction weapons.
- Full citizenship rights "without loss of reservation rights" for the Indians. Support for the "claims of landless Indians to lands acquired and purchased for their use and occupancy";
- Replacing the Wage Stabilization Board with "honest collective bargaining";
- Increase in unemployment compensation to $35 a week for 25 weeks;
- National health program and federal lunch program for public school children;
- Stricter laws against stream pollution; for protection of miners against silicosis;
- Graduated land tax with exemption for all homes under $10,000;
- More public power projects; against land, timber and mineral monopoly agreements between govt. and corporations;
- 100% parity "for that portion of production by individual farmers necessary to support a family at a good standard."

FINAL HEARING JULY 3: The Montana platform contains many more points, some voicing regional demands, many formulating nation-wide issues. Similar drafts from all parts of the nation, when offered to the convention, will present a broad view of the nation's needs and honest solutions.

Before the convention formally opens Friday night July 3, the convention's platform committee will hold public hearings all that day. Delegates will work out the final draft in Saturday and Sunday sessions.

Heading the convention's platform committee as co-chairmen are: Hugh Bryson, pres. of the Marine Cooks & Stewards Union; consumers' leader Katharine Van Orden; Negro leader and lawyer Earl B. Dickerson.

HAVE YOU RETURNED THAT YELLOW ENVELOPE TO US?

LABOR

Steel strikers say they'll defy T-H

IN front of Cveto's Tavern in Duquesne, Pa., Richard Jones told a group of his fellow steel strikers:

> "I'm not going back if they use Taft-Hartley and I say there'll be more like me that will keep the rest out. . . . I'll hit the picket line as soon as the law is applied and I don't care if the whole thing resolves back to the blood-and-thunder days of company police."

The **Wall St. Journal** reporter who quoted Jones (6/13) was told by another striker, J. B. Evans:

> "I wouldn't go back even if the union asked me. Taft is a darn [sic] dictator and I just won't go back to work under his law."

At Inland Steel 18,000 strikers formally voted against going back even if T-H is used.

$10,000,000 AGAINST ALPHONSO: The House last week was about to follow the Senate in "requesting" President Truman to use T-H to break the strike in its third week. Truman told the press he wasn't sure labor would abide by a T-H injunction; he might use it anyway, but he wouldn't be pushed into it.

Many unions meanwhile rallied to the steelworkers' support, promising food and pickets. The mineworkers' John L. Lewis, in a wire to steelworker Pres. Philip Murray, made available a credit of $10 million. His offer, which heartened steelworkers and embarrassed Murray, said:

> We are conscious of the strength of the vast array of adversaries which confronts you. . . . It is, of course, the fervent hope of these interests that they can crush your strike through utilization of the infamous Taft-Hartley slave statute. They are aided and abetted by certain groups and individuals in Congress for whom Mr. R. Alphonso Taft is spokesman. Any attempt to crush your strike through the device of the Taft-Hartley machinery for the benefit of the rapacious and predatory interests that oppose you would be a heinous crime against American labor, anti-social in its concept and perilously destructive of confidence in the principles of our American republic. It would be equivalent to the creation of a neo-fascist movement in America of which R. Alphonso Taft, with his jackboots and velvet pants, would be the willing tool and symbol.

Many expected Murray to decline. In 1949 Lewis proposed to the AFL a jointly-financed pool of $250,000 a week for striking steelworkers, but AFL Pres. Green declined. In 1950 he offered to lend the CIO Auto Workers $1 million but UAW Pres. Reuther declined.

HAPPY "COINCIDENCE": Three weeks of the strike had almost solved the industry's problem of a 5½-million-ton steel surplus. Other industries were scheduling shutdowns affecting perhaps a million workers and blaming it on the strike. Actual causes are declining consumer markets, large inventories, regular vacation shutdowns. The **Journal of Commerce** (6/13) reported:

> The vast bulk of plantwide vacations comes in the first two weeks of July. By a coincidence this period coincides with the one when most companies will be running out of steel. . . . And some managers of consumer durables companies are contemplating longer than usual summer vacation shutdowns to relieve surpluses in finished inventories.

Big business viewed cheerfully the layoffs, the "pattern-setting" wage cuts (decreed by the Wage Stabilization Board for 7,000 textile workers) and rising unemployment.

WANTED — JOBLESS: The Census Bureau's May figures showed that, compared with a year ago, there are fewer jobs, more people seeking work but, oddly, the same unemployment figure: 1,600,000. **Business Week** (5/17), referring to "queer goings-on in the labor market," explained:

> We have had "overemployment" most of the time for several years and those who have lost their jobs are "extra" workers who are not unemployed but just "gone home."
>
> . . . Unemployment remains too low for the work force to have flexibility. Any time the jobless total is less than 2 million, even common labor is scarce. . . . And certainly the labor unions are in the driver's seat in wage negotiations. . . . There's no assurance against inflation like a pool of genuine unemployment. That's a blunt, hard statement, but a fact.

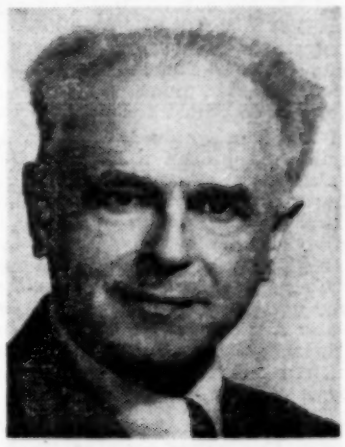
Borough vs. the Senator from Formosa

BOTH the AFL and CIO annually publish lists of Congressmen and Senators to be retired from office at all costs. High on both lists this year is Sen. Wm. F. Knowland (R-Cal.), the "Senator from Formosa" whose foreign policy is guided by the China Lobby and who has gone down the line for almost every anti-labor measure.

This year Sen. Knowland won the Democratic as well as Republican primaries, leaving labor, pledged to his defeat, with one candidate: Reuben W. Borough, state chairman of the Independent Progressive Party and former Los Angeles Commissioner of Public Works. The defeat-Knowland movement, crossing all party lines, gives Borough's candidacy a key importance.

HE'S UNCOMPROMISING: Last week Knowland cemented his opposition on two fronts. He announced he would try to attach a rider to the pending controls bill, which would in effect wipe out public housing in Los Angeles.

On foreign affairs he spoke out again for embattled Syngman Rhee, asking the Senate to suspend judgment on the



REUBEN BOROUGH
Labor has a friend

fresh crop of scandals, jailings and suppressions in South Korea. Praising Rhee as an "uncompromising foe of communism," Knowland said:

> "No doubt Syngman Rhee has his faults but he also has many virtues."

Washington worried after 2 Korea years

(Continued from page 1)

refer to the charges, U. S. delegate Ernest Gross was caught with his prepared speech down. Discarding his text, he noted that the Soviet Union had ratified with a reservation that it had the right to use germ warfare against other states that might use it against her first. He called the Geneva Protocol an "obsolete" piece of paper, asked the Council to refer the question to the UN Disarmament Commission (where the U. S. had blocked germ war hearings before), then brought up the charges of germ warfare in Korea.

Malik ruled him out of order, said Korea was not being discussed, noted that 20 other nations had made the same reservations as Russia in ratifying and said:

> "You are insulting your military ally [Britain] as well as us."

RED CROSS AGAIN: On Friday the U. S. introduced a resolution for an on-the-spot investigation of the charges of germ warfare in Korea by the Intl. Committee of the Red Cross. This same proposal had been rejected by the Chinese and North Koreans in March on the ground that the Intl. Red Cross had proved itself biased by white-washing Nazi concentration camps in World War II. On Sunday Malik announced he would give priority to the U. S. resolution. In what appeared to be a shrewd piece of parliamentary maneuvering by the Soviet Union, the germ war charges seemed finally on the way to a hearing.

Also on Friday seven Council members, including Britain, dutifully supported Gross' proposal to send the Protocol debate to the Disarmament Commission. For Britain Gladwyn Jebb said he had not been insulted by Gross.

Dyad in Daily Worker, London

"After six months training at pantie-raid H.Q., you will be sent to the Western European Army."

The same day Radio Peking accused the U. S. of dropping germ bombs on camps holding UN prisoners of war in North Korea. It said one U. S. soldier had become infected.

SYNGMAN'S FOLLIES: In South Korea the regime of Syngman Rhee ("a puppet who has got out of hand and thinks he can dance without strings"—**Reynolds News** 6/15) was holding on for dear life. Rhee began court-martial trials (newsmen were barred) for seven S. Korean Assemblymen and seven civilians who had criticized the regime.

The new South Korean Students Union in a statement accused Rhee of executing hundreds of innocent citizens after Seoul had been retaken. One student, arrested after handing a copy to foreign correspondents, was defended by opposition Assembly member who pointed out (**Reuters** 6/18)

> . . . that under martial law they face the death penalty for criticizing the government.

SMELLS LIKE CHIANG: London **Sunday Times** correspondent Richard Hughes (6/8) reported that Gen. Mark Clark was considering charges of corruption against the Rhee regime "so serious as to threaten a new crisis overshadowing the [Koje] problem." Among the charges, he wrote, were that

WHAT THE PEOPLE IN THE PAGE 1 PHOTO ARE PROTESTING

The "home" of an African family in South Africa

> . . . under orders of their commanding officers South Korean troops in the front line are stripping vital communications to sell copper products in the black market; soldiers trained and equipped by the UN are being employed to cut wood for private sale as charcoal. . . . The largest South Korean bank note in circulation, 1,000 won, is worth six cents in the free market; South Korea's price index, which stood at 100 in 1948 and 328 in 1950, had climbed to 6,026 in mid-May. . . . The picture bears an alarming resemblance to the last days of Chiang Kai-shek's regime in China.

In face of this mess, Britain's Defense Minister Earl Alexander, dispatched to Korea for a personal investigation of the UN's conduct of the war which has been severely criticized in Britain, had this comment (**N. Y. Times** 6/22) after a two-week inquiry:

"The Americans are running a really good show."

Acheson flies to heal allied breach

BUT THE EARL's comradely joviality on the subject of allied relations was not echoed elsewhere. Foreign affairs analyst Anne O'Hare McCormick bluntly stated the seriousness of the allied crisis thus (**N. Y. Times** (6/21):

> There is plenty of current evidence that the three leading powers of the West are pulling apart. This is not true of the Governments. . . . But the Parliaments and the people involved are not behind their Governments.

The deepening crisis sent Secy. of State Acheson, whose feet have not often touched ground in the last months of trouble-shooting, flying to Europe again for talks with his French and British counterparts. It also drew U. S. Ambassador Kennan from Moscow to report to Acheson on his first six weeks in the Soviet Union. Kennan was reported to be deeply troubled by persistent Russian accusations against the U. S. on germ warfare and the treatment of the Koje Island prisoners, but nevertheless holding the

> . . . conviction that Soviet-American relations are not damaged beyond all possibility of repair provided both sides have the ability to clarify in their own minds what matters are really essential to their own interests and deal on a basis of hard practical recognition of the fact that the only real alternative to achieving a modus vivendi is mutual destruction. (N. Y. Times' Harrison Salisbury from Moscow 6/21).

GERMANS WEST: The root of the present discord was the "peace contract" with West Germany. Not only in Europe but in the U. S. opposition to the participation of a rearmed West Germany in the "European Defense Community" was rising. In Washington the Senate Foreign Relations Committee gave one grudging day to opponents of Senate ratification of the agreement with Bonn. But several organizations, including the American Labor Party, the Natl. Council for the Prevention of War, and the American Veterans for Peace, managed to be heard. Progressive Party Secy. C. B. Baldwin called on the party

> ". . . to rouse the American people, as the people of Western Europe are aroused, to the extreme dangers and high costs of the Republican-Democratic package to rearm Germany."

CBS correspondent Howard K. Smith reported from London (6/15) that the German treaty was being

> . . . received with wid spread misgivings [in Europe; that] Britain's [economic] picture suffers considerably in comparison with Germany the defeated. . . . Germany is the only country in Europe which will raise its standard of living through rearming.

ADENAUER ANXIOUS: In Bonn Chancellor Adenauer received another setback to quick ratification when the Bundesrat (Upper House) decided that in addition to the Bundestag (Lower House) it too had the right to debate and vote on the peace contract.

Last weekend Adenauer's Minister for All-German Affairs, Jakob Kaiser, insisted that the Western powers sit down with the Soviet Union on German unification. This was a severe blow to Adenauer's plans. All over West Germany workers organizations — non-party, Social Democrat and Communist —were meeting to plan campaigns for negotiations for German unity and free elections. A poll by the London **News Chronicle** (6/6) disclosed that 41% of West Germans were against joining EDC, 52% in favor of German neutrality in event of a European war.

In London the **Country Standard** (June '52) declared:

> Everywhere in Western Europe, including the English countryside, American occupation troops are becoming more and more disliked by the local population. . . . Some time ago a big "Americans Troops Go Home" march was held in Burtonwood, Lancs, and recently Chester citizens staged a similar demonstration.

In Florence, Italy, Gen. Ridgway was greeted by a 15-min. work stoppage.

The arrival this week in Paris of 30 German officers in civilian clothes to participate in the work of EDC was expected (**N. Y. Times** 6/22)

> . . . to be seized upon by the Communists and other opponents of the European army plan for propaganda purposes. . . . It will most likely be pointed out that . . . none of the six parliaments [of the six countries represented in the planning] have signed the European defense treaty. . . .

THE DUCLOS STORY: The high-handed methods of the French government in dealing with opposition to its policies brought a protest from many non-communist sources. **L'Observateur** (6/5) said:

> In putting the handcuffs on Duclos, the hateful has been added to the ridiculous. . . . If repression is victorious in France, it is encouragement to the most virulent elements of U. S. politics. . . .

The Paris correspondent of the London **New Statesman and Nation** (6/14), declaring that the charges against Duclos had "fizzled out," said:

> Nevertheless he remains in prison, regardless of his parliamentary immunity . . . a number of lawyers and magistrates have expressed grave misgivings about the whole affair.

Literarni Noviny, Prague

Adenauer: "Could you give me a light, Mr. Schuman?"

S. Africans launch big protest campaign

IN ANOTHER PART of the world, where another government was attempting to force its will on millions of unwilling people, events were swiftly driving toward a climax. June 26 was to mark the beginning of a vast campaign of civil disobedience in the Union of South Africa to protest against Premier Malan's racial and police-state laws. The campaign would affect South Africa's 10,000,000 African, Indian and Coloured people.

On June 5 at a great meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa Indian Congress pres. Dr. Yusof Dadoo and Transvaal Natl. Congress Secy. David Bopape explained the objectives of the campaign. Outside police in squad cars and vans surrounded the hall. Three detectives were seated at the entrance to arrest the leaders. As Dadoo and Bopape were led away, the people

> . . . began to sing the age old song of the African people, "Csikalele Izwelakiti." "We are crying for our country which was taken away by foreigners" (The Clarion, Cape Town (6/12).

Also arrested were African Natl. Congress leaders Moses Kotane and J. B. Marks and Michael Harmel of the Transvaal Peace Council.

WARNING: In a leaflet entitled "Action Stations," the anti-segregation Springbok Legion of rank-and-file World War II white veterans called for

> . . . a nationwide stoppage of work to demonstrate practically the ability to paralyze the country rather than submit to dictatorship . . . to restore in some measure the shattered remnants of decent black-white relationships in the country.

According to the **AP** (6/2)

> . . pro-British Natal warned Prime Minister Malan's Nationalist government to abide by the Constitution or face a break-up of the Union.

Dr. J. S. Moroka, ANC president-general, said the response to an appeal for 10,000 volunteers to launch the campaign of disobedience had been "excellent." Among the volunteers, he said, were many whites.

NO SUB FOR SERETSE: In the British protectorate of Bechuanaland early this month the district commissioner of Serowe was howled down when he tried to read an order banning Chief Seretse Khama (who had married an Englishwoman) from the territory. As protests increased against the ban, two Africans were reported killed in a clash with police rushed from Southern Rhodesia. British offers of the chieftainship were turned down by several tribal leaders, including Seretse's sister.

On June 18 the British government published a White Paper embodying plans for a Central African Fedn. (Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland). The plan has been unanimously opposed by Africans in these territories who are asking for full self-rule, as on the Gold Coast. The proposed federal assembly would have 35 white members and six Africans (Africans outnumbered whites 50 to 1).

In British W. Africa, according to the **Paris Tribune des Nations** (6/16) British Colonial Minister Oliver Lyttleton explored the possibilities of Anglo-U. S. exploitation of Nigeria and the Gold Coast. After his departure from Lagos, the British Atomic Research Dept. revealed the existence in Northern Nigeria of vast uranium deposits.

TUNISIA: In the Tunisian stalemate **Newsweek** (6/16) reported

> . . . a tete-a-tete between Secretary Acheson and French Cabinet leaders in Paris

(Continued on following page)

(Continued from preceding page)

[at the end of May] leading to a settlement of the vexing Tunisian question.

Acheson agreed, Newsweek said, to the "maintenance of the French position on North Africa" if the French government would present some program of reform in Tunisia to cut the ground from under the nationalists.

In Paris last week Foreign Minister Schuman proposed such a plan (similar to the one denounced by the Tunisians in April as "illusory") which was attacked by the Socialists and Mr. Schuman's own Popular Republicans as "too timid" (N.Y. Times 6/20). Last Friday Schuman just squeaked through on a Gaullist motion declaring him incompetent to deal with Tunisia.

At the UN the Arab-Asian bloc of 13 nations, led by Pakistan, said they would press for a special session of the General Assembly on Tunisia. The U.S. announced it would not support them.

LATIN AMERICA

Guatemala begins land expropriation

SIX years ago Guatemala's dictator Jorge Ubico, one of Central America's bloodiest, was forced to flee to the U.S. where he died still confident that the Indians of his country needed no democracy but strong-arm rule.

President-professor Juan Jose Arevalo's revolutionary regime withstood 30 separate attempts at violent overthrow (each with U.S. blessing) and brought in a new deal that allowed for the rise of a militant trade union movement, good schools, nurseries, social security. Last week the revolution dug in, touching the vital problem of the country: feudalism on the land. Guatemala's Congress passed and sent to President Arbenz Guzman a land reform program which in effect will expropriate unused lands (up to now wasted by absentee landlords) and turn sharecropped parcels over to the sharecroppers.

EXEMPTIONS: The reform is couched in broader terms of land expropriation but exemptions are sweeping: farms of less than 667 acres if at least ⅔ are under cultivation; all plantations of coffee, bananas, cotton, sugar, tobacco, rubber, quinine, beans, cereals, other export crops.

The country's biggest landlord, the United Fruit Co., is left almost untouched, except for sharecropping arrangements which the company has made in some cases with its workers.

All expropriated land is to be paid for in government bonds, redeemable over 25 years. Mild as the reform is, it stirred landlord and U.S. cries of communism. The N.Y. Times, speaking of the Indians whose centuries-old tradition is that of the small farmer, commented:

> The majority of those who are presumed to be beneficiaries of the land distribution are illiterate Indians without knowledge of any modern language. [Most talk Mayan, resist Spanish as the language of the conquest.] Many doubt they have the training and experience to become independent farmers overnight and enter competition for the sale of their crops.

Opposition unity talks on again in Mexico

THE Mexican revolution, once the most dynamic in Latin America, has for a long time been stalled. In some areas (foreign investment, land distribution, popular democracy) it has backslid badly.

Mexican labor, small farmers, small business, small industry seemed ready for opposition to President Miguel Aleman's pro-U.S. administration. But when the election campaign began last fall a united opposition seemed impossible: it was split into numerous parties and labor federations. When Aleman named as his successor Adolfo Ruiz Cortines (duly nominated by the governing party, the Party of Revolutionary Institutions) he seemed as good as elected.

Four opposition parties were in the field: the Partido Popular, headed by Vicente Lombardo Toledano; the Fedn. of People's Parties headed by Gen. Miguel Henriquez Guzman, close friend and business associate of Mexico's much-loved elder statesman, ex-President Lazaro Cardenas; the Communist Party; the Party of the Revolution with standard-bearer Gen. Candido Aguilar.

UNITY MOVES: The CP and PP early in the campaign joined behind Toledano, made overtures to the other parties. The first long step to unity came in February as a result of the

Excelsior (Catholic), Mexico City
"Right over there!"

State Dept.'s blundering attempt to force a U.S. military treaty on Mexico in an election year. All four opposition parties came together, issued a joint denunciation of the pact, shocking Aleman with the prospect of a tougher opposition than he expected.

When Aleman broke off the talks it heartened not only all Latin American peace forces, but the unity moves in Mexico. Since then the four parties have agreed on a common platform for peace and economic independence, common local slates in many areas. Aguilar has stepped down, leaving the opposition with one platform but two Presidential candidates. Talks looking to withdrawal of one of the candidates have been held, broken off, reconvened. Last week, following direct appeals to all sides by the CP, the talks were on again. With only three weeks to go to election day July 6, Toledano and Henriquez Guzman were still talking.

ATOM'S-EYE VIEW: If one steps down, the other may win; in any case vigorous opposition after election would be assured. The U.S., banking on Aleman's machine (which not only gets out the vote but counts it), wants not only a military pact but other agreements including exclusive rights to Mexico's uranium. Last April the N.Y. Times' Sidney Gruson reported Aleman was considering the agreements, but

> . . . shrewd politician that he is, he recognized the dangers of such an agreement for his administration at election time. . . . It is hoped that when the elections are over, Sr. Aleman's successor, who is virtually certain to be Adolfo Ruiz Cortines . . . will be willing to listen more favorably to the U.S. proposals.

THE LAW

Ohio judge rules humanitarian crazy

Even U.S. history is now being rewritten to jibe with the theory that humane and progressive persons must be crazy. Dr. Edward J. Kepf, a psychiatrist, wrote recently in an American Medical Assn. journal that Abraham Lincoln's "passion for justice" must have stemmed from a brain injury caused by a boyhood kick in the head by a horse. Last month Mrs. R. B. Shipley, State Dept. passport chief, explained in a letter why passports are increasingly denied for political reasons:

> You are aware that most of the applications for passports by persons who say they want to leave the U.S. permanently are made by unbalanced persons.

DANGEROUSLY SANE: The theory was notched a little higher recently in Columbus, Ohio. Businessman Oscar Smilack, with three others, was arraigned before Common Pleas Judge John R. Kling on grand jury indictments charging contempt of the legislature after their appearance before a state un-American Activities Committee. Smilack has expressed freely to the committee his philosophy and views on race discrimination and peace, but had declined to answer questions about his own or others' political affiliations. He pleaded not guilty. Telling the judge that Smilack was a communist "angel" and "dupe," and had needed psychiatric help after the still unsolved murder of his mother some years ago, prosecutor Ralph J. Bartlett recommended commitment to Lima State Hospital for the Criminal Insane for 30 days' observation.

The judge so ordered. Smilack was whisked away, without time to say goodbye to his wife and children who were in the courtroom—and while his attorney, who told the judge Smilack was "no more crazy than myself of Your Honor"—was still on the phone trying to arrange an immediate habeas corpus hearing.

Smilack was released by the Appeals Court in Lima on a writ of habeas corpus after being held 13 days.

RESORTS

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Berkeley, Calif.

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HEAR GUARDIAN EDITOR CEDRIC BELFRAGE on the foreign situation, Thurs., July 10, 8 p.m., California Recreation Center, 1490 California Av. Auspices. Independent Progressive Party.

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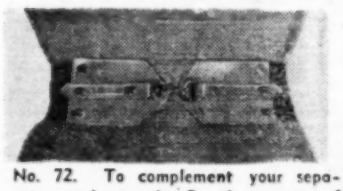

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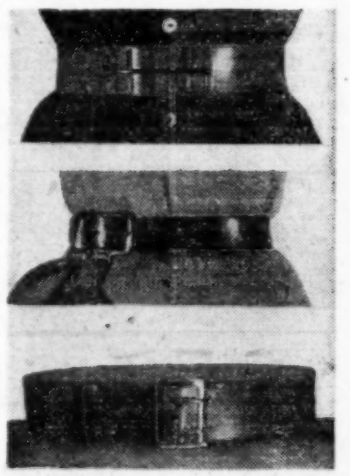

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PEACE, WAR AND YOU, by Jerome Davis. Henry Schuman, N.Y. 282 pp. $3.

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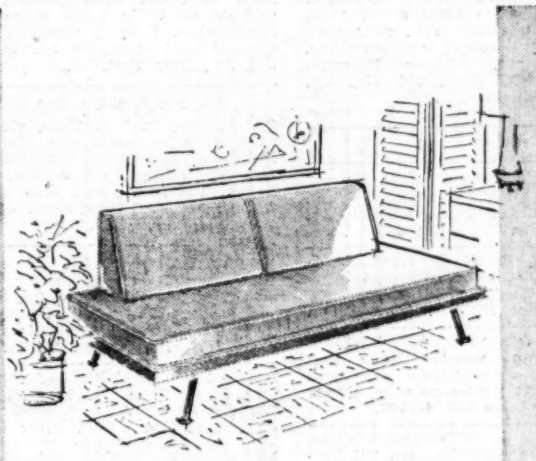

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